Message Text

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ACTION AF-06

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02

INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15

USIA-06 OPR-02 AID-05 VA-01 DHA-02 IO-10 OMB-01

TRSE-00 /074 W

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R 190926Z SEP 75 FM AMEMBASSY LAGOS TO AMCONSUL IBADAN INFO SECSTATE WASHDC 0000N AMCONSUL KADUNA

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E.O. 11652: GDS TAGS: PINS, MIL, NI

SUBJECT: RIOTING BY DISABLED SOLDIERS

REF: IBADAN 402 (NOTAL)

- 1. VERY FRAGMENTARY REPORTS INDICATE DISABLED SOLDIERS AT OSHODI CAMP (APPROXIMATELY TWO MILES FROM IKEJA AIRPORT) WENT ON ONE-TO-TWO HOUR RAMPAGE EVENING FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER. TROUBLE TRIGGERED REPORTEDLY WHEN CAMP INMATE STRUCK DOWN BY CIVILIAN AUTO ON ROAD ADJACENT TO COMPOUND. IN ENSUING MELEE, SOLDIERS ISSUED FORTH FROM CAMP AND BEGAN FIRING. SHOOTING, GENERAL SDCMFT AT FIRST, PROBABLY PRIMARILY DIRECTED AT CIVILIANS, THEN DEVELOPED INTO MORE FOCUSSED BATTLE BETWEEN FACTIONS OF SOLDIERS IN CAMP.
- 2. SEPTEMBER 5 INCIDENT FOLLOWS SIMILAR FRAY SAME PLACE AUG. 27. AGAIN, DETAILS SCARCE. AVAILABLE INFO INDICATES SHOOTING OCCURRED FROM ABOUT 1630 TO 2200 HOURS. THESE DIFFICULTIES SPARKED BY DECISION NEW FMG MUSTER OUT DISABLED VELS WITH TWO MONTHS PAY AND PROMISE TO LOOK INTO MATTER OF POSSIBLE ADDITIONAL BENEFITS AT LATER DATE. THIS CONFIDENTIAL

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APPARENTLY CONTRASTED WITH UNDERSTANDING AMONG VETS THAT THEY

WOULD BE BETTER TREATED BY A GRATEFUL GOVERNMENT. IN ANY EVENT, VETS CARRIED ON SEVERAL HOUR SMALL ARMS FIRE FIGHT WITH REGULAR ARMY TROOPS DURING COURSE OF WHICH SEVERAL REPORTEDLY WERE KILLED AND WOUNDED.

3. WHY DISABLED VETS STILL ARMED WOMEWHAT OF MYSTERY TO US. ONE REASON GIVEN IN AUGUST WAS THAT VETS, WHILE IN PROCESS BEING MUSTERED OUT, STILL CARRIED ON ACTIVE ROLLS AND HENCE BORE ARMS. SUCH EXPLANATION WOULD BE LESS PLAUSIBLE SECOND TIME AROUND.

4. FOR OBVIOUS REASONS, INCIDENTS HAVE NOT BEEN REPORTED BY PRESS OR OTHER INFO MEDIA. WILL REPORT ANY FURTHER INFO AS IT DEVELOPS. INCIDENTS DO NOT APPEAR HAVE ANY SIGNIFICANCE BEYOND VIOLENT EXPRESSION DISSATISFACTION BY GROUP GF DISABLED NIGERIAN CIVIL ASR VETERANS OVER RETIREMENT BENEFITS BEING OFFERED. EASUM

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994 Channel Indicators: n/a

Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED

Concepts: MILITARY PERSONNEL, UNCONVENTIONAL WARFARE, CIVIL DISORDERS, CASUALTIES

Control Number: n/a Copy: SINGLE Draft Date: 19 SEP 1975 Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960 Decaption Note: Disposition Action: RELEASED Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: greeneet
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 19751 AGOS09210

Document Number: 1975LAGOS09210
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00

Drafter: n/a Enclosure: n/a Executive Order: GS Errors: N/A Film Number: D750327-0261

From: LAGOS

Handling Restrictions: n/a

Image Path:

Legacy Key: link1975/newtext/t19750936/aaaabfok.tel Line Count: 78 Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM

Office: ACTION AF Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL Original Handling Restrictions: n/a Original Previous Classification: n/a Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a

Page Count: 2

Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a Reference: 75 IBADAN 402

Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED Review Authority: greeneet

Review Comment: n/a Review Content Flags: Review Date: 27 AUG 2003

Review Event:

Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <27 AUG 2003 by ShawDG>; APPROVED <15 DEC 2003 by greeneet>

Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 06 JÚL 2006

Review Media Identifier: Review Referrals: n/a Review Release Date: n/a Review Release Event: n/a **Review Transfer Date:** Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a

Secure: OPEN Status: NATIVE

Subject: RIOTING BY DISABLED SOLDIERS

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To: IBADAN

Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 06 JUL 2006